

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 INR-05 L-02 ACDA-05

NSAE-00 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9003
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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 6584

GENEVA FOR USDEL CSCE

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR NATO

SUBJ: NOVEMBER 26 NAC DISCUSSION OF DETENTE

REF: USNATO 6557

SUMMARY: AT NOVEMBER 26 NAC, ALLIES NOTED SPC CHAIRMAN'S REPORT ONDETENTE (REFTEL). LUNS WILL DRAW ON REPORT AND ON OTHER SOURCES IN PREPARING HIS REMARKS INTRODUCING DISCUSSION OF DETENTE AT THE DECEMBER MINISTERIAL MEETING. BELGIAN PERMREP HOPED THAT SECRETARY WOULD ADDRESS MEANING OF SUCH PHRASES AS "NEW RELATIONSHIP" BETWEEN THE U.S. AND U.S.S.R. WHICH HAD APPEARED IN VLADIVOSTOK COMMUNIQUE. END SUMMARY.

1. SYG LUNS OPENED NOVEMBER 26 COUNCIL DISCUSSION ON DETENTE WITH STATMENT THAT IT WAS NOT HIS INTENTION TO PUT THE SPC CHAIRMAN'S REPORT (REFTEL) ON THE DECEMBER MINISTERIAL AGENDA. HE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT HE MIGHT DRAW ON THE PAPER IN INTRODUCING
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THE MINISTERS' DISCUSSION ON DETENTE.

2. FRENCH PERMREP (DE ROSE) THOUGHT THE CHAIRMAN'S PAPER A VAST IMPROVEMENT OVER ITS PREDECESSOR. HE POINTED OUT, HOW-

EVER, THAT THE TITLE SEEMS SOMEWHAT AMBITIOUS FOR THE PAPER'S RATHER MODEST CONTENT. HE RECOGNIZED THAT THE SPC CHAIRMAN HAD FOUND IT EXTREMELY DIFFICULT TO DRAFT AN AGREED PAPER WHICH REFLECTED ALL 15 ALLIED VIEWS AND WHICH CONTAINED ANYTHING LIKE THE SCOPE AND QUALITY OF SECRETARY KISSINGER'S STATEMENT TO THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE.

3. DANISH PERMREP (SVART) AGREED WITH FRENCH PERMREP'S COMMENTS AND SUGGESTED THE FOLLOWING SPECIFIC CHANGES. IN PARAGRAPH 5, REFERENCE SHOULD BE TO "WESTERN EUROPE" SINCE UNIFICATION OF ALL EUROPE IS A VASTLY DIFFERENT CONCEPT THAN THE SPC HAD INTENDED. SVART ALSO SUGGESTED THAT BREZHNEV DOCTRINE, IN LAST SENTENCE OF PARAGRAPH 11, BE CITED BETWEEN QUOTATION MARKS SINCE THE POLICY EXPRESSED BY THE DOCTRINE HAD BEEN IN PRACTICE LONG BEFORE BREZHNEV'S ADVENT. PARAGRAPH 13 MIGHT ALSO BE AMENDED TO SHOW THAT THE SOVIETS DO NOT UNIFORMLY INSIST ON THE DECOUPLING OF ECONOMIC-TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION FROM POLITICAL CONDITIONS. AS EXAMPLES, SVART CITED SOVIET INSISTENCE ON POLITICAL AGREEMENT BEFORE ENTERING INTO ECONOMIC DEALS WITH THE FRG. MOREOVER, THE SOVIETS HAD USED ECONOMIC PRESSURE IN THE MID-50'S TO BRING DOWN A FINNISH GOVERNMENT WHICH IT DID NOT LIKE.

4. COUNCIL DEAN DE STAERCKE (BELGIUM) NOTED DIFFICULTIES IN DRAFTING DETENTE PAPER BUT THOUGHT IT A VALUABLE WORKING DOCUMENT TO SERVE AS A BASIS FOR ALLIANCE DISCUSSION ON THE WHOLE RANGE OF DETENTE ISSUES. CANADIAN CHARGE (ROY) ECHOED DE STAERCKE'S APPRAISAL.

5. U.S. CHARGE (MCAULIFFE) PRAISED THE SPC EFFORT AND SAID IT CONTAINED A GOOD NUMBER OF ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION IN ALLIANCE DISCUSSIONS. HE EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT SUCH ITEMS COULD BE FEATURED IN THE SYG'S REMARKS OPENING THE MINISTERIAL DISCUSSION ON EAST/WEST RELATIONS, AND THAT LUNS MIGHT ALSO REFER IN HIS REMARKS TO SECRETARY KISSINGER'S SPEECH AND TO CANADIAN PRIME MINISTER TRUDEAU'S OCTOBER 24 COMMENTS ON DETENTE. MCAULIFFE NOTED THE SOMEWHAT PESSIMISTIC CAST TO THE REPORT, BUT RECOGNIZED THAT CONFIDENTIAL

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OBSTACLES TO DETENTE EXISTED WHICH THE SPC HAD FELT CALLED UPON TO POINT OUT.

6. FRG PERMREP (KRAPP) JOINED IN PRAISING THE REVISED CHAIRMAN'S REPORT BUT SAID THERE WAS A DANGER THAT IT WAS TOO "DEFENSIVE" IN TONE. HE HOPED THAT THE ALLIES WOULD APPROACH DETENTE NOT ONLY FROM THE VIEWPOINT OF DEFENDING THEIR OWN INTERESTS BUT WOULD SEEK MAXIMUM WESTERN ADVANTAGE IN THEIR NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE EAST. SYG LUNS SAID HE WOULD HIGHLIGHT THIS POINT IN HIS REMARKS AT THE MINISTERIAL.

7. NORWEGIAN CHARGE (SELMER) AID THAT ALTHOUGH THE PAPER HAD SOUGHT TO IDENTIFY DIFFERENCES AMONG THE ALLIED PERCEPTIONS OF

DETENTE, HE WAS PLEASED TO NOTE THAT NOWHERE DID THESE DIFFERENCES SEEM INSURMOUNTABLE, NOR WOULD IT BE NECESSARY TO CONCENTRATE ON THEM AT THE MINISTERIAL. IN PRAISING THE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT, SELMER THOUGHT IT PROVIDED USEFUL GUIDANCE WHICH WOULD PERMIT THE ALLIES TO AVOID MISTAKES IN THEIR BILATERAL DEALINGS WITH THE EAST.

8. REFERRING TO FRG PERMREP'S COMMENT ABOUT "DEFENSIVE" TONE OF PAPER, DE STAERCKE NOTED REFERENCE TO PARAGRAPH I OF THE VLADIVOSTOK COMMUNIQUE TO "PROGRESS IN RE-SHAPING SOVIET-AMERICAN RELATIONS". A "NEW RELATIONSHIP" BETWEEN THE U.S. AND USSR WAS ALSO CITED IN PARAGRAPH IV OF THE COMMUNIQUE. DE STAERCKE SAID HE WAS STRUCK BY THE TONE OF THESE PHRASES AND HOPED THAT SECRETARY KISSINGER WOULD ADDRESS THEM AT THE DECEMBER MINISTERIAL. MCAULIFFE

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